

## PRECIPITATION

Viewed as a whole the month was one of scanty precipitation. The only considerable regions where the monthly totals were appreciably above normal were the southeastern, south-central, and east-central parts and the far Northwest. In the latter the excesses were moderate, but from eastern Louisiana to New Jersey there was a marked excess, especially from central Alabama to central South Carolina. In Georgia the month brought one-fourth more rain to the State as a whole than any previous winter month of record, while in Alabama and South Carolina it was decidedly the wettest January. The average amount in Georgia was 10.84 inches, but in the central division 12.29 inches. The chief periods of heavy rains in this area were the 8th to 12th and the 15th to 20th. Severe floods followed these heavy rains, the details of which appear elsewhere in this issue.

There was a considerable deficiency of precipitation in Arkansas, Tennessee, and the western portions of North Carolina and Virginia and in the States to the northward, but the consequences were seldom serious. Dubuque, Iowa, had quite, and Springfield, Ill., very nearly the least total precipitation of any January since records began.

In the northern border States there was usually less than the normal precipitation, except from Montana to the North Pacific coast, where there was a slight excess.

In California and Arizona the shortage was serious; southern California had especially little, and in Arizona the unusual shortage resulted in the practical exhaustion of the water supply in many grazing areas.

## SNOWFALL

This was comparatively heavy in northeastern sections, particularly from western Pennsylvania to northern New England. The heaviest snowstorm over this region came during the closing days, when a strip from central Pennsylvania to northwestern Vermont received from 15 to 36 or more inches, the station at Syracuse, N. Y., recording 28 inches within 40 hours.

Near the middle Atlantic and New England coasts there was not so much snow at this time, the heaviest fall occurring either very early or about the 20th. In

large portions of Maryland and northern Virginia the ground was snow-covered throughout the month, a rather unusual occurrence.

In North Carolina and to the westward and northward as far as or slightly beyond the Mississippi River, snowfall was less than the average for January and in the upper Lake region usually a little less than average, but in western Missouri and most of the middle Plains somewhat more than the average.

In the elevated districts of New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and California the snowfall was usually less than normal; also in Nevada, except the northeast portion. The North Pacific States, Idaho, and northwestern Montana had usually more than normal. In Utah and Wyoming the new snowfall of January was mainly light, but unusually large portions of those States were snow-covered, particularly during the first half, as a result of December snowfall.

The outlook for the summer water supply in the far West is comparatively good in most northern districts and fair in central, but poor in most Southern States. In practically all of California it is especially poor, though not quite so bad as a year ago at this time.

## RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND SUNSHINE

The relative humidity values throughout the country were in the main slightly above normal, except in the far Southwest, where they were materially below. They were less than normal also locally in the far Northwest and generally over the lower Lake region and portions of the Ohio Valley.

Over the Southeastern States, despite the excessive precipitation, the relative humidity was only moderately high.

## SUNSHINE

Cloudy weather persisted to an unusual extent in the Southeastern States, sunshine being scarcely one-third the possible amount. Similar conditions existed in the far Northwest and in the Great Lakes region, but this is not unusual for a midwinter month.

In most other parts of the country the sunshine was about what is usually experienced in January.

## SEVERE LOCAL HAIL AND WIND STORMS, JANUARY, 1925

The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A more complete statement will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau.

Place	Date	Time	Width of path (yards)	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Middle Atlantic States.....	1-2					Snow and sleet.....	Street-car and railway service demoralized.....	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Enterprise, Ala. (3 miles south of)	10	8 a. m.				Small tornado.....	Amount of damage not reported.....	Do.
West Elba, Ala.	10	Noon				do.....	Small amount of damage.....	Do.
Shellhorn, Ala.	10	do.				do.....	Small amount of damage. In the above tornadoes several persons were injured and a few buildings demolished.	Do.
Barnwell, S. C.	16	1:30 p. m.			\$3,000	Probably thunderstorm.	Buildings and shade trees damaged.	Do.
Pendroy, Mont. (near).....	18	10:30 a. m.	880		1,730	High wind.....	Buildings on two ranches damaged; also feed and seed barley.	Do.
New Jersey.....	20					Sleet.....	Motor traffic impeded or totally stopped in northern section.	Do.
New England.....	20					Snow and wind.....	No severe damage reported.....	Do.
Central New York.....	29-30			3		Snow.....	Arteries of travel generally in bad condition, causing traffic delay; scores of roofs caved in; schools closed; traffic tied up or delayed; 30 inches of snow in 24 hours.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau; Journal News (Ithaca, N. Y.).
New England.....	29-30					Snow and wind.....	Motor and street-car traffic demoralized in some sections; railway schedules seriously delayed.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.